Amendments to the Claims

This Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application. No new matter has been added.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring an analyte in a sample containing hemoglobin ~~or a hemoglobin degradation product~~ by using a redox reaction, comprising:

prior to the redox reaction, adding at least one of a sulfur-containing compound selected from the group consisting of dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt, lithium lauryl sulfate, 4-aminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonic acid sodium salt, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2-2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, and 4,4'-diazidostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, or adding a combination of at least one of said sulfur-containing compounds and at least one of a nitrogen-containing compound selected from the group consisting of 2,4-dinitrophenol, p-nitrophenol, 2,4-dinitroaniline, p-nitroaniline, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, nitrobenzene, sodium nitrite, and potassium nitrite to the sample so as to eliminate an influence of the hemoglobin ~~or the hemoglobin degradation product~~ contained in the sample and thereafter, the method further comprising:

forming an oxidizing substance or a reducing substance derived from the analyte;

measuring the amount of the formed substance derived from the analyte by the redox reaction; and

determining the amount of the analyte from the measurement value indicating the amount of the formed substance.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein both of the sulfur-containing compound and the nitrogen-containing compound are added to the sample.

4-5 (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the redox reaction is a color development reaction using an oxidase, and involves reducing the oxidizing substance derived from the analyte and oxidizing a substrate that develops color by oxidation, and the amount of the oxidizing substance is measured by measuring a degree of the color developed in the color development reaction.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the degree of the color developed is measured by measuring an absorbance at a wavelength for detecting the substrate.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxidizing substance derived from the analyte is hydrogen peroxide.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the oxidase is a peroxidase.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the analyte is at least one selected from the group consisting of a glycated protein, a glycated peptide, and a glycated amino acid, and hydrogen peroxide is formed as the oxidizing substance derived from the analyte by allowing a fructosyl amino acid oxidase to act on the analyte in the sample after eliminating the influence of the hemoglobin ~~or the hemoglobin degradation product~~ contained in the sample.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein at least one of the sulfur-containing compound and the nitrogen-containing compound is added to the sample before allowing the fructosyl amino acid oxidase to act on the analyte.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the substrate that develops color by oxidation is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of N-(carboxymethylaminocarbonyl)-4,4'-bis(dimethylamino)diphenylamine sodium salt, a combination of Trinder's reagent and 4-aminoantipyrine, N,N,N',N',N",N"-hexa(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-4,4',4"-triaminotriphenylmethane hexasodium salt, 10-(carboxymethylaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine sodium salt, 10-

(methylaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine and 10-(carboxyaminomethyl-4-benzaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine sodium salt, and both of the sulfur-containing compound and the nitrogen-containing compound are added to the sample.

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the substrate that develops color by oxidation is at least one compound selected from the group consisting of N,N,N',N',N",N",-hexa(3-sulfopropyl)-4,4',4"-triaminotriphenylmethane hexasodium salt, N,N,N',N',N",N"-hexa(2-hydroxy-3-sulfopropyl)-4,4',4"-triaminotriphenylmethane hexasodium salt, 10-(carboxymethylaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine sodium salt, 10-(methylaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine and 10-(carboxyaminomethyl-4-benzaminocarbonyl)3,7-bis(dimethylamino) phenothiazine sodium salt, and at least the-sulfur-containing compound is added to the sample.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the analyte is at least one selected from the group consisting of a glycated protein, a glycated peptide and a glycated amino acid.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein the glycated protein is glycated hemoglobin.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sample is a hemolyzed sample obtained by hemolyzing erythrocytes.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein when the sulfur-containing compound is added to the sample, its concentration is 0.05 to 200 mmol/L when a concentration of blood cells in the sample is 1 vol %.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein when the nitrogen-containing compound is added to the sample, its concentration is 0.05 to 500

mmol/L when a concentration of blood cells in the sample is 1 vol %.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, wherein when the sulfur-containing compound and the nitrogen-containing compound are added to the sample, their concentrations are 0.05 to 200 mmol/L and 0.05 to 250 mmol/L, respectively, when a concentration of blood cells in the sample is 1 vol %.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring a glycated protein in a sample containing hemoglobin ~~or a hemoglobin degradation product~~ by using a redox reaction, comprising:

prior to the redox reaction, adding at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt, lithium lauryl sulfate, 4-aminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonic acid sodium salt, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, 4,4'-diazidostilbene-2-2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, or

adding at least one selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt, lithium lauryl sulfate, 4-aminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonic acid sodium salt, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, 4,4'-diazidostilbene-2-2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, and adding at least one selected from the group consisting of 2,4-dinitrophenol, p-nitrophenol, 2-4-dinitroaniline, p-nitroaniline, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2-2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, nitrobenzene, sodium nitrite and potassium nitrite to the sample so as to eliminate an influence of the hemoglobin ~~or the hemoglobin degradation product~~ contained in the sample and thereafter, the method further comprising:

forming an oxidizing substance or a reducing substance derived from the glycated protein;

measuring the amount of the formed substance derived from the glycated protein by the redox reaction; and

determining the amount of the glycated protein from the measurement value indicating the amount of the formed substance.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for measuring an analyte in a sample containing hemoglobin ~~or a hemoglobin degradation product~~ by using a redox reaction, comprising:

prior to the redox reaction, adding at least one of a sulfur-containing compound selected from the group consisting of dodecylbenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt, lithium lauryl sulfate, 4-aminoazobenzene-4'-sulfonic acid sodium salt, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2-2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, and 4,4'-diazidostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, or at least one of a nitrogen-containing compound selected from the group consisting of 2,4-dinitrophenol, p-nitrophenol, 2,4-dinitroaniline, p-nitroaniline, 4-amino-4'-nitrostilbene-2,2'-disulfonic acid disodium salt, and nitrobenzene to the sample so as to eliminate an influence of the hemoglobin ~~or the hemoglobin degradation product~~ contained in the sample and thereafter, the method further comprising:

forming an oxidizing substance or a reducing substance derived from the analyte;

measuring the amount of the formed substance derived from the analyte by the redox reaction; and

determining the amount of the analyte from the measurement value indicating the amount of the formed substance.